Dear Kurt, 3/31/96

Thanks for your letter and your good wishes.

I do not know how they knew but the JFK Lancer people heard that I was in the zhhšppžžž hospital. I was, for two weeks, locally. Congestive heart failure and more. They took almost a quart of fluid out of my chest. Home after two weeks, day before my 83rd birthday. Two months later I was back in the same hospital and after two days there they ambulanced me to Johns Hopkins in Baltimore where I was another 3 weeks and ~~fx~~ 4 days.

I've been home about two months and weaker, am making out. Also being careful and reading labels on salt content! Lil has not used any for years but there is so much hidden in what we buy!

She is making out OK for her. Between us we now have 167 years. Orthopaedic surgeon recommended a hip replacement last year and when Lil was ready for it decided against it because she'd still have pain from her back. Ethical doctor that!

I've kept working, though.

If your source was the JFK Lancer magazine, they asked me to write something about the LaFontaines. In a rash I did. I suppose they'll have it in the next issue.

Unless their nutty new editor decides against it. He is and wants to be called by his full name George Michael Evica. He has retired from teaching. Two years ago, for a Fourth Decade nuthatch in Providence, RI, he actually solicited a paper to be presented there on me as a government agent! The Fourth Decade was an unrepentent. I am not making any of this up, they are that looney. And anyone who isn't is to them a government agent!

Hope all is going well with all of you.

Best,

Harold